



Fair Political Practices Commission

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NEWS RELEASE

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FPPC Enforcement Decisions: January 14, 2004

The following are enforcement decisions approved by the Fair Political Practices Commission at its regular monthly meeting held in Sacramento on Jan. 14, 2004. Decisions are divided by category and include brief summaries of each case and the amount of the fines.

Additional information on each of the enforcement cases below can be found in the current agenda on the FPPC website at www.fppc.ca.gov. FPPC agendas are distributed and posted on the agency website 10 days prior to each monthly meeting.

The web version of the agenda includes links to the stipulations agreed to by the commission, and by the individuals and organizations subject to the fines, or the default decisions ordered by the commission. Exhibits in support of the stipulations and default decisions are also available on the website. If you are unable to access the FPPC website, or need further assistance, please call the FPPC press office at 916-322-7761.

ALJ Decision

In the Matter of James Lotter, FPPC No. 01/276.

Staff: Commission Counsel Elizabeth K. Conti and Investigator Bonnie Swaim.

James Lotter was a member of the Gualala Municipal Advisory Council. The Commission issued an Accusation alleging that Lotter failed to timely file one Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of Government Code Section 87300. Following a hearing, Administrative Law Judge Muriel Evens issued a proposed decision finding that Lotter failed to timely file one Statement of Economic Interests. The commission accepted the proposed decision in its entirety (1 count). **\$500 fine.**

Campaign Reporting Violations

In the Matter of Plaza Cleaning Service Company, L.P., FPPC No. 02/1044.

Staff: Commission Counsel Jennie Eddy and Investigator III Jon Wroten.

Plaza Cleaning Service Company, L.P., a New York domestic limited partnership headquartered in New York, N.Y., committed two violations of the Act by failing to disclose a late contribution, in violation of section 84203(a) (1 count), and failing to file a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of section 84200(b) (1 count). **\$4,000 fine.**

In the Matter of Merri Jean Ross, FPPC No. 03/552.

Staff: Commission Counsel Jennie Eddy and Investigator III Jon Wroten.

Merri Jean Ross, a homemaker who resides in Beverly Hills, committed one violation of the Act by failing to timely file a semi-annual campaign statement, in violation of section 84200(b) (1 count). **\$2,000 fine.**

SEI Violations

In the Matter of Byron Wear, FPPC No. 00/391.

Staff: Commission Counsel Steven Meinrath and Supervising Investigator Dennis Pellon.

Byron Wear, a member of the San Diego City Council, failed to disclose an outstanding loan on his annual Statements of Economic Interests, in violation of sections 87200 and 87207 (3 counts). **\$7,000 fine.**

In the Matter of Suzanne Levoe, FPPC No. 01/434.

Staff: Commission Counsel Elizabeth K. Conti and Investigator III Dan Schek.

Suzanne Levoe, former member of the City of Sierra Madre Planning Commission, failed to timely file 2001 and 2002 annual Statements of Economic Interests, in violation of section 87203 (2 counts). **\$2,000 fine.**

In the Matter of Robert McAdoo, FPPC No. 02/369.

Staff: Commission Counsel Jeffery A. Sly and SEI Coordinator Mary Ann Kvasager.

Robert McAdoo, a member of the board of directors for the Ukiah Valley Fire Protection District in Mendocino County, Calif., failed to timely file a 2001 annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of section 87300 (1 count). **\$1,500 fine.**

In the Matter of Robert Meyerson, FPPC No. 02/596.

Staff: Commission Counsel Jeffery A. Sly and SEI Coordinator Mary Ann Kvasager.

Robert Meyerson, a member of the Dental Examiners Board for the California Department of Consumer Affairs, failed to timely file a 2001 annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of section 87300 (1 count). **\$200 fine.**

In the Matter of Gilbert Otero, FPPC No. 02/691.

Staff: Commission Counsel Jeffery A. Sly and SEI Coordinator Mary Ann Kvasager.

Gilbert Otero, District Attorney of Imperial County, Calif., failed to timely file a 2001 annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of section 87203 (1 count). **\$200 fine.**

In the Matter of Michael Brooks, FPPC No. 02/619.

Staff: Commission Counsel Jeffery A. Sly and SEI Coordinator Mary Ann Kvasager.

Michael Brooks, a member of the Planning Commission for the City of Hughson, Calif., failed to timely file a 2001 annual Statement of Economic Interests, in violation of section 87203 (1 count). **\$200 fine.**

Major Donor – Streamlined Procedure

Failure to Timely File Major Donor Campaign Statements.

Staff: Chief Investigator Alan Herndon, Investigator III Jon Wroten, and Political Reform Consultant Mary Ann Kvasager.

The following persons and entities have entered into stipulations for failing to file major-donor campaign statements that were due during the calendar year of 2002, in violation of Government Code Section 84200:

In the Matter of Kathy Levinson, FPPC No. 2003-578.

Kathy Levinson of Palo Alto, Calif., failed to timely disclose contributions totaling \$11,500 (2 counts). **\$1,725 fine.**

In the Matter of J. Brian Thebault, FPPC No. 2003-587.

J. Brian Thebault of New Vernon, N.J., failed to timely disclose contributions totaling \$10,000 (1 count). **\$1,500 fine.**

Late Contribution – Streamlined Program

Failure to Timely File Late Contribution Reports – Proactive Program.

Staff: Chief Investigator Alan Herndon and Investigator III Jon Wroten.

The following persons and entities have entered into stipulations for failure to file late-contribution reports in 2002, in violation of Government Code Section 84203:

In the Matter of John P. Manning, FPPC No. 2003-823.

John P. Manning of Boston, Mass., failed to timely disclose a late contribution totaling \$10,000.00 (1 count). **\$1,500 fine.**

In the Matter of Richard Del Piero, FPPC No. 2003-839.

Richard Del Piero of Watsonville, Calif., failed to timely disclose late contributions totaling \$14,400.00 (3 counts). **\$2,160 fine.**

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